



# Department of Ecology

## 2003-05 Capital Budget

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The Capital Budget for Ecology is a highly effective tool used for the State of Washington to pursue its environmental goals. The Governor's budget requests funding to:

- continue the focus on water and healthy watersheds;
- support sustainable communities and economic vitality; and
- adequately maintain state-owned facilities.

The Capital budget proposal directs available revenues to local communities for environmental infrastructure. For the 2003-05 biennium there is a change in the mix of activities funded; while additional resources are directed toward water infrastructure projects, revenue limitations in some dedicated accounts mean there are fewer resources available for water quality projects and local toxics clean-up efforts. Specifics of the budget proposal are as follows:

### **Environmental investments in local communities**

**Water Quality ~ \$151.1 million.** This is a combination of \$111.1 million for water quality loans and \$40 million for Centennial Clean Water grants. This money provides grants and loans to public bodies for the financing of planning, implementation, design, acquisition, and construction of water pollution control facilities and activities.

**Water Infrastructure ~ \$16 million.** There is \$4 million to finance plans, engineering reports, land acquisition and other pre-construction activities associated with the development of water storage and groundwater recharge storage facilities. \$8 million is directed to finance water infrastructure and conveyance projects in 16 salmon critical basins across the state. Focus will be on solving conflicts between the needs for municipal water supply, agricultural water supply and fish restoration efforts. \$4 million is used to assist water systems that have deteriorated to a point where public health is an issue, and to identify a solution and finance or contribute toward financing their acquisition and rehabilitation by municipal systems.

**Water Resources ~ \$10 million.** \$3 million is appropriated for buying water and \$7 million for water supply facilities. This helps local communities protect and restore threatened and endangered fish stocks, implement local watershed plans and plan for future water needs. It also allows completion of existing agriculture water supply and conservation projects.

**Waste Management and Toxic Site Clean Up ~ \$45 million.** \$26.7 million goes for remedial action grants to expedite the process for clean up of contaminated sites and allows more sites to be cleaned up through grants of 50 to 75% of project costs. \$17.8 million in coordinated prevention grants funds local government solid and hazardous waste planning and implementation; and \$.5 million for public participation grants supports public involvement in site remediation and waste reduction efforts.

**Low Level Radioactive Waste Site Closure ~ \$6.3 Million.** \$1.1 million in a new appropriation and \$5.2 million in a re-appropriation allows for completion of the site investigation and installation of initial covers to prevent the spread of contaminants at the Commercial Low Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility at Hanford.

## **Protect the state's investment in Ecology facilities**

**Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve ~ \$2.9 million.** This allows completion of the expansion and support for the mission of the Padilla Bay National Estuarine Reserve. The Padilla Bay facilities will meet current building codes, address safety and ADA compliance issues and continue supporting the education and research mission of the Reserve.

*If you require this document in alternative format, please contact Teresa Reno at 360-407-7007(Voice) or 711 or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).*